

CPYRGHT

**EXCLUSIVE: Inside Story Behind 'Beria' Case**

BY GENE FUSON  
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By Trans-Atlantic Telephone  
PARTS From Oct 7 To Oct 11

168105, France, Oct. 2.—I am now able to tell the fantastic story of Fabio Gallo, and how he claims he met Icarus! Bertie in a deal for him to get a sanctuary in the United States.

Whether this story is true or false, I do not know. I only know that it involved me in international intrigue and set off one of the great manhunt in history, with the intelligence agents of at least three nations scouring Spain and other Southern European areas in a search for the purged secret police chief of the Soviet Union.

After three days of intensive questioning which was sub-

San Diego Union. Nearly two months ago, says Fuson, a reporter for *The San Diego Union*, was approached by a man named Fabio Gallo, a Nicaraguan exile, who said he had been asked to be an intermediary in helping to arrange sanctuary in the United States for four high Russian Communists, supposedly including Lavrenti Beria, who had escaped from Russia. Gallo and his information were turned over to United States outposts and the Senate Permanent Investigating Subcommittee, headed by Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.). Later, *The San Diego Union* sent Fuson to Spain to investigate Gallo's story to determine whether it was true or false.

"Are you looking for someone?" I asked the Spaniard.  
The Spaniard answered, "I am looking for Gallo." He answered me in Spanish.

"Yes, I am Mr. Gallo," I answered.

"Where is your jacket?" asked the Spaniard.

"I pointed to my jacket," The man asked me what boat I arrived on. I answered, "The Constitution." The man asked, "Why didn't you get off at Chibouti?"

man ordered me to get in and said to the Spaniard, "This is the package."

"I got into the car and they started talking in my language. He had asked for the guarantees (of insurance of sanctuary in the United States) before I told him I didn't have them. The Spaniard asked me again this time."

"Berta said something to the Spaniard which the Spaniard interpreted as 'Tell them you saw me and became a friend of the

ected to censorship, here, in his own words, is the story Gallo told me finally told Spanish police:

"I made first contact with a Spanish representative of Aería at the Embassy Room restaurant in Gibraltar by parking my car according to instructions in front of the restaurant and wearing a white jacket into the place. I drove around Gibraltar a while first and then went into the restaurant to make the contact. I was

"I said, 'The Americans don't believe anything you say. They need more proof.' The man took me to a car parked nearby—a black Audi.

"I returned then to Malaga, where I had been staying at the Miramar Hotel. I stopped en route at the farm of Gonzales Gonzalez at Martbella, which is 60 kilometers from Gibraltar.

"I told Gonzalez that I had seen Dan."

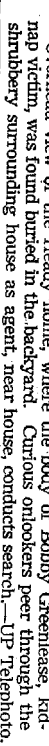
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"After talking with Fuson, I told the ladies all about the whole

was good for Spain.

a girl, Marie Ineressa Benjumea, at the residence.



# Kidnapping Suspect Astounds Her

(Continued from Page 1) "said Hall explained that heTrust Co., which has

to Mrs. Heady and she took him unday night were if

to throw the duffle  
bridges-milling at a

St. Joseph and met Mrs. Heady and N. S. O'Neill, but was done by Robert

STAYED AT HOME

She said he soothed her by Monday where Bobb

and planted them there.

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"Then plans were to embark from the Gonzales farm by ship. Gonzales said it was very well patrolled and recommended against embarking from the farm.

"Sept. 18 I returned to Gibraltar, after leaving spare parts for my Cadillac and gasoline at the farm with Gonzales' brother, Fernando. I went to the American Export Lines, then went to the Spanish consulate because the British police had told me they were looking to see if I had a right to get back to Spain due to a passport technicality. At the consulate I was refused another visa until the present visa had expired.

#### WENT TO PIER

"I then went to the pier to get a phonograph from my luggage. All of my luggage at this time was at the pier where I had disembarked when the ship Constitution stopped at Gibraltar. I went to the pier and got the phonograph and a radio from my luggage and went to have lunch at the Embassy room at 1:30 p.m.

"I parked my car in front of the Gachet store after lunch and left it there to make radio repairs.

"I was away from the car about an hour and a half, watching. I saw the Spaniard again coming to make contact. The same man I had talked to the first time approached the car and I went to talk to him.

#### RADIO AS SIGNAL

"I told the Spaniard I had talked with Fuson and was trying to get the guarantees and that Fuson would call back in 72 hours. Then after that I told the Spaniard I would have difficulty in getting back into Gibraltar. The Spaniard told me to name another way for getting in touch. I told him I had my radio, which I was going to take into Spain.

"I said I would leave the radio at the Pilot Radio Co. in Gibraltar and after that the Spaniard was to check at the Pilot Radio Co. to see if the radio had been taken out. If the radio was moved from the Pilot Radio Co. that was to be the signal that Fuson had arrived at the farm and was waiting for the people to come—Beria and the three accompanying men.

#### STAYS AT GIBRALTAR

"I picked up the radio on the morning of Sept. 19 and returned it to the Pilot Radio Co. with instructions that somebody was going to pick it up later there.

"The fellow stayed at Gibraltar. I went back.

"I returned to the farm about 2 p.m. Sept. 19, had lunch at the Goizueta farm with the Goizueta family, and after lunch discussed the phone call from San Diego with Countess Pilar Luca de Pena Sagalde and her two daughters, Pilar and Annie Theresa and Gonzales' sister, Rosa.

"The Gonzales family and his sister were afraid they were getting mixed up in something serious but I told them that I knew some important people in the

#### WENT TO MADRID

"I discussed the whole matter with Luca Arto Luca de Tema, a director of the newspaper ABC. Luca de Tema printed all the information here and got the issue of this paper suspended from distribution.

"I went from Malaga to Madrid Sept. 22 and went directly to the office of Regengo, the commissioner of political police in Spain. He listened to my story and took me to the Palace Hotel where I met Fuson.

"Then they took me to the office of Gen. Rafael Hierro at central headquarters for National Police. Gen. Hierro assured me that I would have the full cooperation in this matter and said he would put me under guard.

#### PARKING OF AUTO

"I was to attempt to make another contact. I told the police I had arranged to make a contact by parking my car in front of the Cafe Cosmopolite on Valle Larlos in Malaga, a street four blocks long.

"I was instructed that when I was ready to make the next contact, I was to park my car in front of this cafe for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. I was optimistic about making a contact.

"When I failed to make a contact on Sunday the police began to question me."

\* \* \*

This ends the story that Gallo told me he had told the Spanish police. After about the time he had told this story to the police, he received several unexplained telephone calls. Gallo changed completely. There was no question in my mind that Gallo was afraid—whether afraid of the police or retribution from another source I do not know. He gave the impression of a man afraid for his life.

#### REFUSES TO LEAVE

He refused to leave the hotel. He refused to drive his car. He couldn't eat, wouldn't sleep and moved to another hotel. He did not go back to the other hotel.

Soon after he was returned to Malaga he was questioned for three days, but he refused to cooperate with the police. The statement I have completed about his first contact is a statement he finally gave to police after three days of questioning. All previous information had been false, he admitted, and said he was trying to protect Gonzales and Gonzales' family.

#### SEARCH ENGENDERED

The story, whether true or a fabulous concoction by Gallo, set off the intelligence services throughout a good part of the world, all in the hope of bagging a prize that might turn the tide of the Cold War.

But because of the very wildness of the story, none of the governments would admit they were working on it. But behind the scenes, there was furious activity, with agents probing into Gallo's history and trying to back-track over his statements and